

They're trying to get us to withdraw from the world so that they can impose their dark vision on people, and remember what their dark vision is like. Remember what it was like for a young girl to grow up with the Taliban in Afghanistan. This was a society where young girls weren't even allowed to go to school. It's a society where people were humiliated in public. This is a society where people couldn't worship freely. This was a dark and dismal society. And that's their vision of the world. In order to impose their vision, they want us to leave. They want us to cower in the face of their brutal killings.

And the United States will not be intimidated by these people because we believe strongly in freedom and liberty and human rights and human dignity, freedom to worship as you see fit, freedom to speak your mind. And I believe President Roh understands that.

*Prime Minister Medgyessy.* And we share the same values with the United States.

#### *Hungarian Troops in Iraq/U.N. Security Council Resolution on Iraq*

*Q.* Mr. Prime Minister, has it been brought up that perhaps the mandate of Hungarian troops would be prolonged after the 31st of December? Did you touch upon that issue?

*Prime Minister Medgyessy.* We were talking about how delighted we were about the Security Council resolution both in Europe and everywhere else, that we welcome the intention that gradually the conditions are created for the Iraqi people to take over control over the government. And in the fairness of that process, we shall decide whatever should happen with Hungarian soldiers there.

*President Bush.* Thank you, sir.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:54 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to former President Saddam Hussein of Iraq; Prime Minister Ayad Allawi of the Iraqi interim government; and President Roh Moo-hyun of South Korea. Prime Minister Medgyessy spoke in Hungarian, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

#### Remarks at a Reception for Black Music Month June 22, 2004

Thanks for coming, and welcome to the White House. Laura and I really appreciate you coming to join us today to celebrate Black Music Month, and we're glad you're here.

Our Jazz Masters and students from the Jazz in the New Generation program will perform for us soon, and we thank them for being here as well. I think you're going to like it. [*Laughter*] It's actually one of the great advantages of being the President is you get some great musicians to play for you in your living room. [*Laughter*]

We want to thank Dana Gioia for coming here. He's the chairman of the National Endowment of Arts. He's doing a fine job. I appreciate you being here.

I see members of my Cabinet who are here. Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman is joining us. Thank you, Ann, for coming. And the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Alphonso Jackson and his wife, Marcia, I appreciate you both being here. I want to thank Congressman Chris Shays from the great State of Connecticut for joining us. Thank you, and

thank you for bringing Laura back safely last night. *[Laughter]*

I appreciate Bill Coleman, the former Secretary of Transportation under Gerald Ford, for joining us today. Mr. Secretary, thank you for coming.

I want to thank Dr. Billy Taylor, Jazz Master 1988, and the Billy Taylor Trio for being here today. Thank you all for coming. Honored you're here. I want to thank Jazz Master 2004, Chico Hamilton, for joining us today. Thank you for coming. James Moody, Jazz Master 1998, thank you for coming. Of course, Jazz in the New Generation students, who will be introduced shortly. I appreciate David Baker, Jazz Master 2000, for joining us as well. Proud you're being here.

During this month, we recognize the great contribution that black music has made to the culture of our Nation and to the world. This music could only have come from the unique experience of African Americans, yet it speaks to every human heart. Black music in America began with spiritual songs that bore witness to the cruelty of bondage and the strength of faith. From those roots, it grew into a variety of styles, jazz and gospel, rhythm and blues, and rock and roll. All these forms capture a part of the American spirit.

It's impossible to imagine American music without Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington, Mahalia Jackson and Billie Holiday, Lionel Hampton or B.B. King, Stevie Wonder and Aretha Franklin, and countless others. It's just impossible to imagine American music without them, isn't it?

Recently, we've lost two of our greatest African American musicians. Last month, the celebrated jazz drummer Elvin Jones passed away. He was the fiery pulse of John Coltrane's Quartet. Elvin Jones loved music so much that rather than spend his last days in the hospital, he brought an oxygen tank on stage with him, so he could keep amazing his audiences until the very end.

And just days ago we said goodbye to another American original, Ray Charles, who's often called "the father of soul music," but his music embraced every style and transcended every label. It takes a great talent to make a song forever your own, and no one hears "Georgia On My Mind" or "Hit the Road, Jack" without thinking of Ray Charles. When he was 15, his mother, Aretha, told him just before her death, "You might not be able to do things like a person who can see, but there are always two ways to do everything, and you've just got to find the other way." Well, Ray found—Ray Charles found the other way, a beautiful way, and it was our privilege to witness it.

Though an older generation leaves us, their legacy lives on in many talented young African American musicians of today: Gospel singers like Kirk Franklin and Yolanda Adams—I might add, both from Texas—*[laughter]*—bright jazz talents like Roy Hargrove, Mark Turner, Joshua Redman; pop artists like Alicia Keys. And of course, there's a Marsalis brother for just about every instrument. *[Laughter]* These performers and many others carry forward the tradition of black music in our country. We take great pride in this heritage. We're grateful to every musician who keeps that heritage so rich and so vital today.

And so I've signed a proclamation designating June 2004 as Black Music Month in the United States of America. It's a way we honor this important part of our heritage.

I'm going to turn things over now to the Chairman of the National Endowment of the Arts, Dana Gioia, who will tell us about the Jazz Masters program and introduce our performers. Before he comes up here, I want you to know that he jokes he's the only person ever to have gone to Stanford Business School to become a poet. *[Laughter]* He can explain that for himself. *[Laughter]* He's doing a great job as the NEA Chairman. Welcome, Dana Gioia.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:05 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. The Black Music Month proclamation of June 22

is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

## Message to the Congress Reporting on Iceland's Lethal Research Whaling Program

June 22, 2004

*To the Congress of the United States:*

On June 16, 2004, Secretary of Commerce Donald Evans certified under section 8 of the Fisherman's Protective Act of 1967, as amended (the "Pelly Amendment") (22 U.S.C. 1978), that Iceland has conducted whaling activities that diminish the effectiveness of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) conservation program. This message constitutes my report to the Congress consistent with subsection (b) of the Pelly Amendment.

The certification of the Secretary of Commerce is the first against Iceland for its lethal research whaling program. In 2003, Iceland announced that it would begin a lethal research whaling program and planned to take 250 minke, fin, and sei whales for research purposes. The United States expressed strong opposition to Iceland's decision, in keeping with our longstanding policy against lethal research whaling. Iceland's proposal was criticized at the June 2003 IWC Annual Meeting by a majority of members of the IWC Scientific Committee, and the IWC passed a resolution that urged Iceland not to commence this program. In addition, the United States, along with 22 other nations, issued a joint protest asking Iceland to halt the program immediately. The United States believes the Icelandic research whaling program is of questionable scientific validity. Scientific data relevant to the management of whale stocks can be collected by non-lethal techniques. Since Iceland's 2003 announcement, Iceland reduced its proposed take to 38 minke whales and in

implementing its lethal research program, killed 36 whales last year. For this year, Iceland has proposed taking 25 minke whales. The United States welcomes this decision to reduce the take and to limit it to minke whales, and we appreciate Iceland's constructive work with the United States at the IWC on a variety of whaling issues. These adjustments, however, do not change our assessment that Iceland's lethal research whaling program is of questionable scientific validity and diminishes the effectiveness of the IWC's conservation program.

In his letter of June 16, 2004, Secretary Evans expressed his concern for these actions, and I share these concerns. I also concur in his recommendation that the use of trade sanctions is not the course of action needed to resolve our current differences with Iceland over research whaling activities. Accordingly, I am not directing the Secretary of the Treasury to impose trade sanctions on Icelandic products for the whaling activities that led to certification by the Secretary of Commerce. However, to ensure that this issue continues to receive the highest level of attention, I am directing U.S. delegations attending future bilateral meetings with Iceland regarding whaling issues to raise our concerns and seek ways to halt these whaling actions. I am also directing the Secretaries of State and Commerce to keep this situation under close review and to continue to work with Iceland to encourage it to cease its lethal scientific research whaling activities. I believe these diplomatic efforts